

Date: Thu, 5 May 94 19:51:31 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #492
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 5 May 94 Volume 94 : Issue 492

Today's Topics:

 digital speech transmission for HAMS?
 George Gilder's Article - Auctioning The Airwaves Part 2
 Icom W2A with optional Ac
 International Callsign
 Luck Hurder ... gone:(Why?
 Older ham gear (antiques?
 Was this a bad idea?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Thu, 5 May 1994 09:40:55 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!EU.net!uknet!dcl-cs!
ega066@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: digital speech transmission for HAMS?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

There have been some pretty nifty advances in speech codec technology in
recent years, and you can quite easily go down to 16 kb/s and less
with good performance. With use of a reasonable modulation scheme
and good filtering, there's no reason that digital speech can't fit
into existing 12.5 kHz channels. Some DSP may be required, but that
needn't be a problem. With the possibility of 4.8 kb/s codecs,
it won't be too long before 3kHz bandwidths are a practical
proposition.

Simon GOGWA

Date: Thu, 5 May 1994 08:33:10 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!emory!news-feed-2.peachnet.edu!umn.edu!seal!
phil@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: George Gilder's Article - Auctioning The Airwaves Part 2
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <gaj.109.000DFCC4@portman.com> gaj@portman.com (Gordon Jacobson) writes:

>(Continued from previous message)

>

>Importing Obsolescence

>

> As a result, the entire industry was convulsed by what Shute and
>Steinbrecher saw as a retrograde war over standards. Because Europe in
>general lagged far behind the United States in adopting analog cellular
>technology, the EEC had sponsored a multinational drive to leapfrog the
>United States by adopting a digital standard, which could then be exported
>to America. The standard they chose was called GSM (global services mobile),
>a time-division multiple-access (TDMA) scheme that exceeded analog capacity
>by breaking each channel into three digital time slots. Racing to catch up,
>the American industry adopted a similar TDMA approach that also increased the
>current system's capacity by a factor of three. With McCaw Cellular in the
>lead, American firms quickly committed themselves to deploy TDMA as soon as
>possible.

>

> Then in 1991, Qualcomm unleashed a bombshell Exploiting the
>increasing power of DSPs to process digital codes, the company demonstrated a
>spread-spectrum, code-division multiple-access (CDMA) modulation scheme
>that not only increased capacity some twentyfold over analog but also allowed
>use of the entire 11.5 megahertz of the cellular bandwidth in every cell. To
>prevent interference between adjoining cells, analog and TDMA systems could
>use a frequency in only one cell out of seven.

>

> Much of the industry seemed paralyzed by fear of choosing the wrong
>system. To Shute and Steinbrecher, however, these fears seemed entirely
>reckless. Using wideband digital radios, companies could accommodate any
>array of frequencies and modulation schemes they desired TDMA, CDMA, voice,
>data and eventually even video. Shute resolved to adapt Steinbrecher's
>advanced radio technology to these new markets. In mid-1991, Shute rushed
>ahead with a program to create a prototype cellular transceiver that could
>process all 12.5 megahertz of the cellular bandwidth and convert it to a
>digital bit stream.

>

> The first major customer for the radios turned out to be ADC-Kentrox, a
>designer of analog cell extenders designed to overcome "dead zones" caused by

>large buildings in urban areas. This system was limited in reach to the few
>hundred meters the signals could be sent over analog wires without
>deterioration. By converting the signals to digital at the remote site, the
>Steinbrecher radio extended this distance from hundreds of meters to scores
>of kilometers and allowed the price of the product to remain at \$ 100,000.

>

> But these gains concealed the potential impact and meaning of the
>Steinbrecher technology. Once again, the Steinbrecher radios are being used
>to complement the existing system rather than overthrow it. In a similar
>way, McCaw plans to buy some \$ 30 million worth of Steinbrecher machines to
>carry through its cellular digital packet data (CDPD) network. To be
>provided to 95 percent of McCaw's regions by the end of 1995, CDPD is a data
>overlay of the existing cellular system, which allows users of the current
>analog system to send digital data at a rate of 19.2 kilobits per second,
>compared to the 9.6-kilobit-per-second rate offered by most modems over
>twisted-pair wires.

>

> The Steinbrecher radio can survey any existing swath of spectrum in real
>time and determine almost instantly which channels are in use and which are
>free. It is this capability that convinced McCaw to buy Steinbrecher data
>cells despite the commitment of McCaw's putative owner, AT&T, to sell
>narrowband units made by Cirrus Logics' subsidiary Pacific Communications
>Sciences Inc. (PCSI), which have to scan through channels one at a time.
>McCaw is using the Steinbrecher radios as sniffers that constantly survey
>the cellular band and direct data bursts to those channels that are not being
>used at a particular time.

>

> Indeed, the immediate needs of the marketplace alone justify the
>adoption of Steinbrecher data cells. With modems and antennas increasingly
>available and even moving sometime next year to PCMCIA slots the size of a
>credit card, demand for wireless data is likely to soar.

>

> PCSI is now shipping a quintuple-threat communicator that fits into the
>floppy bay of an advanced IBM ThinkPad notebook or an Apple PowerBook,
>enabling them to send and receive faxes, make wireless or wire-line phone
>calls, dispatch data files across the existing cellular network or send CDPD
>packets at 19.2 kilobits per second. Speech recognition capabilities from
>IBM and Dragon Systems will come next year to personal digital assistants,
>permitting them to read or receive E-mail by voice. Although the first
>Newtons and Zoomers have disappointed their sponsors, the market will
>ignite over the next two years as vendors adopt the essential form factor of
>a digital cellular phone with computer functions rather than providing a
>kluge computer with a vaporware phone.

>

> Nonetheless, McCaw has more on its mind with Steinbrecher than merely
>gaining a second source for CDPD sniffers. By simultaneously purchasing
>some 10 percent of the company and putting chief technical officer Nicholas
>Kauser on the Steinbrecher board, McCaw is signaling not a tactical move but

>a major strategic thrust. The Steinbrecher rollout in fact represents
>McCaw's stealth deployment of broadband digital capability.

>

> Today the rival CDPD equipment from PCSI, Hughes and AT&T all can be
>made to perform CDPD communications as an overlay to the existing cellular
>phone system. However, only the Steinbrecher systems can be upgraded to
>perform all of the functions of a base station and more, for voice, data and
>video. Only Steinbrecher allows the replacement of 416 radio transceivers,
>one for each channel, with one broadband radio and some digital signal
>processing chips. Only Steinbrecher can replace a \$ 1.5 million,
>1,000 square foot cellular base station with a box the size of a briefcase
>costing some \$ 100,000 but, thanks to Moore's Law, racing toward \$ 10,000.

>

> It remains to be seen only whether McCaw will have the guts to follow
>through on this initiative by completely rebuilding its network to
>accommodate the wideband radio being installed at its heart.
>Self-cannibalization is the rule of success in information technology. Intel
>and Microsoft, for example, lead the way in constantly attacking their own
>products. But this mode of life is deeply alien to the telephone
>business--even an entrepreneurial outfit like McCaw.

>

> With new software and a simple upgrade to a MiniCell, the Steinbrecher
>DataCell will allow the McCaw system to handle all modulation schemes
>simultaneously--AMPS, TDMA, CDMA and future methods such as Orthogonal
>Frequency Division Multiple Access--obviating the need for hybrid phones.
>The multiprotocol and aerobatic capabilities of broadband digital radios
>could enable McCaw to roll out a cornucopia of PCS services--for everything
>from monitoring vending machines or remote power stations to tracking trucks
>and packages, and linking laptops and PDAs--while the rest of the industry is
>still paralyzed by wrangles over incumbent users, regulatory procedures,
>frequency access and radio standards.

>

> Making channel sizes a variable rather than a fixed function of radios,
>Steinbrecher systems offer the possibility of bandwidth on demand. They
>could open up the entire spectrum as one gigantic broadband pipe into which
>we would be able to insert packets in any empty space--dark fiber in the air.

>

>

>

>So Stop The Auction

>

> So what does this have to do with the impending spectrum auction?
>Almost everything. Strictly speaking, the FCC is leasing 10 year exclusive
>rights to radiate electromagnetic waves at certain frequencies to deliver
>PCS. This entire auction concept is tied to thousands of exclusive frequency
>licenses. It has no place for broadband radios that treat all frequencies
>alike and offer bandwidth on demand. It has no place for modulation schemes
>that do not need exclusive spectrum space. Continuing to use interference

>standards based on analog transmissions that are affected by every passing
>spray of radiation, FCC rules fail to grasp the far more robust nature of
>digital on-off codes with error correction. By the time the FCC gets around
>to selling its 1,500 shards of air, the air will have been radically changed
>by new technology.

>

> The FCC is fostering a real estate paradigm for the spectrum. You buy
>or lease spectrum as you would a spread of land. Once you have your license,
>you can use it any way you want as long as you don't unduly disturb the
>neighbors. You rent a stretch of beach and build a wall.

>

> The Steinbrecher system, by contrast, suggests a model not of a beach
>but of an ocean. You can no more lease electromagnetic waves than you can
>lease ocean waves. Enabled by new technology, this new model is suitable for
>an information superhighway in the sky. You can use the spectrum as much
>as you want as long as you don't collide with anyone else or pollute it with
>high-powered noise or other nuisances.

>

> In the Steinbrecher model, you employ the spectrum as you use any
>public right of way. You are responsible for keeping your eyes open and
>avoiding others. You cannot just buy a 10 year lease and then barge blindly
>all over the air in a high-powered vessel, depending on the government to
>keep everyone else off your territory and out of your way. The spectrum is
>no longer dark. The Steinbrecher broadband radio supplies you with lights
>as you travel the information superhighway. You can see other travelers and
>avoid them.

>

> Even if Steinbrecher radios did not exist, however, the assumptions of
>the auction are collapsing in the face of innovations by Qualcomm and other
>spread-spectrum companies. Like Steinbrecher radios, CDMA modulation
>schemes allow you to use spectrum without interfering with others. To
>auditors without the code, calls seem indistinguishable from noise. But
>radios with the code can dig up signals from under the noise floor. Up to
>the point of traffic congestion where the quality of the signal begins to
>degrade gracefully, numerous users can employ the same frequencies at the
>same time.

>

> This property of CDMA has been tested in Qualcomm's CDMA Omnitrac
>position locator and two-way communications system. Mainly used by
>trucking companies, it is now being extended to cars, boats, trains and other
>mobile equipment. Based on geosynchronous satellites, it operates all across
>the country, with some 60,000 units, under a secondary license that forbids
>Qualcomm to interfere with the primary license-holders of the same
>frequencies. Qualcomm's transceivers on the tops of trucks use a small
>antenna that issues a beam six to 10 degrees in width. Because satellites
>are just two degrees apart, the Qualcomm beam can blanket several satellites.
>Other users, however, are entirely unconscious of the presence of the CDMA
>signal. Omnitrac has operated for some six years and has not interfered

>with anyone yet.

>

>

>

>No More Blind Drivers On The Information Superhighway

>

> With an increasing array of low-interference technologies available, the
>FCC should not give exclusive rights to anyone. Instead, it should impose a
>heavy burden of proof on any service providers with blind or high-powered
>systems that maintain that they cannot operate without an exclusive license,
>that want to build on the beach and keep everyone else out of the surf. In
>particular, the FCC should make all the proponents of TDMA, whether in the
>American or European GSM systems, explain why the government should wall
>off spectrum. The wireless systems of the future will offer bandwidth on
>demand and send their packets wherever there is room.

>

> At the same time that new technologies make hash of the need to auction
>off exclusive licenses, Qualcomm and Steinbrecher also radically attack the
>very notion of spectrum scarcity on which the auction is based.
>Steinbrecher's radio makes it possible to manufacture new spectrum nearly at
>will. By putting one of his MiniCells on every telephone pole and down every
>alley and in every elevator shaft, the cellular industry can exponentially
>multiply the total number of calls it can handle. At some \$ 100,000 apiece
>and dropping in price, these MiniCells can operate at 900 megahertz or six
>gigahertz just as well as at the two-gigahertz range being auctioned by the
>government. It is as if Reed Hundt is auctioning off beachfront property,
>with a long list of codicils and regulations and restrictive covenants, while
>the tide pours in around him and creates new surf everywhere.

>

> Still more important in view of the coming auction, the wideband
>capability of the Steinbrecher radio joins CDMA in allowing the use of huge
>spans of spectrum that are ostensibly occupied by other users. The
>Steinbrecher radio can survey the gigahertz reserves of the military and
>intelligence services, UHF television and microwave, and direct usage to the
>many fallow regions. For example, the prime territory between 225 megahertz
>and 400 megahertz, consisting of some 3,0130 25-kilohertz channels, is
>entirely occupied by government and air force communications. But most of
>the channels are largely unused. A Steinbrecher radio could sit on those
>frequencies and direct calls to empty slots.

>

> An ideal system would combine Steinbrecher broadband machines with
>Qualcomm's modulation schemes. Steinbrecher supplies the lights and eyes to
>find space in already licensed spectrum bands; CDMA allows the noninvasive
>entry into spans of spectrum that are in active use.

>

> Meanwhile, the Steinbrecher system changes the very nature of spectrum
>"ownership" or rental. Unrestricted to a single band or range of
>frequencies, Steinbrecher radios can reach from the kilohertz to the high

>gigahertz and go to any unoccupied territory. As Steinbrecher radios become
>the dominant technology, the notion of spectrum assignments allotted in 2,500
>specific shards becomes a technological absurdity.

>

> Wall Street is beginning to catch on. When Steinbrecher announced in
>January a private placement through Alex. Brown, the company wanted to
>raise some \$ 20 million. The response was overwhelming, and hundreds of
>frustrated Investors were left wringing their hands as the new radio left the
>station. The sole proprietorship of the mid-1980s with revenues of \$ 5
>million or less was moving into sleek new headquarters off Route 198 in
>Burlington. Steinbrecher Corp. was becoming yet another of the Moore's Law
>monsters.

>

> Meanwhile, the issue for Washington emerges starkly. Do we want a
>strategy for MiniCells or for Minitels?

>

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>

> Gordon Jacobson
> Portman Communication Services
> (212) 988-6288

>

> gaj@portman.com gaj1@eniac.seas.upenn.edu
> MCI Mail ID: 385-1533 Channel One BBS - Cambridge, MA

>

Date: Wed, 4 May 94 23:26:00 -0800
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!netline-fddi.jpl.nasa.gov!nntp-
server.caltech.edu!news.claremont.edu!kaiwan.com!ledge!
darryl.linkow@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Icom W2A with optional Ac
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

RC>I have an Icom W2A in nice condition I'd like to sell. It has the BP84
RC>BP85 12V battery pack
RC>BC72 Desktop fast charger (really the only way to go!)
RC>HM65 Lapel Speaker Mike
RC>The BC72 charger also in in the original box.

RC>I am asking \$400 for it with the buyer paying shipping.

Richard,

Your used W2A with the accessories is probably worth less than your asking price. I have virtually no money, due to a prolonged period of unemployment, coupled with a financial blow resulting from the damage to my property from the Januaru earthquake. But I do have a lot of hardware that I could offer in trade for your Icom package above. I could offer you a trade for about \$400 worth of the following items. Let me know if any of the items I have are of interest to you:

HARDWARE FOR SALE

FLOPPY DISKETTES (all are pre-formatted MS-DOS)

~~~~~  
720K 3½" ----- 50 diskettes - \$20.00  
1.44M 3½" (720K punched out and formatted 1.44M) - \$20.00 for 50  
360K 5¼" ----- 50 diskettes - \$5.00

DTK XT - 640K RAM, two 360K floppies, monochrome card with parallel port, Samsung amber monitor, Western Digital hard disk controller card, 98 key extended keyboard, Citizen Premiere 35 daisywheel wide carriage printer and printer cable - \$250.00 plus shipping

##### OTHER STUFF!

~~~~~  
IBM AT 128/640 memory expansion card - comes with 128K RAM -
upgrades an IBM AT 512k to 640K, can add another 512K on the
card for extended memory \$25.00

Genuine IBM PC/XT keyboard w/83 keys, plexi dust cover... \$35.00

Texas Instruments Appletalk/RS-232 port for microLaser... \$50.00
Texas Instruments new developer cartridge for microLaser.. \$95.00
Texas Instruments new OPC cartridge (drum)for microLaser..\$110.00

AST 4-port serial card - NEW, w/4 socketed 16550 UARTS... \$100.00
Practical Peripherals Microbuffer In-Line w/256K RAM.... \$100.00
RS232 Gender Changer Male/Male..... \$10.00
Kensington Universal Printer Stand..... \$10.00
2 Electricord XP 6 outlet strip surge protectors (new)..ea \$10.00
Compaq portable floppy control/printer port - excellent... \$25.00
Chatsworth Data mark sense card reader w/serial cable.... \$150.00
Calltext 5000 text to speech converter & telephone communications
board - currently sells for \$3200 ----sale!..... \$150.00

NS16450N UARTS ---- \$5.00 each
NS16550AFN UARTS -- \$15.00 each

4 - 256K-70ns 3-chip SIMMs - \$10.00 each or \$35.00 for all

4 - CY7C185-25PC (8Kx8) static RAM, 25 ns. - \$5.00 each

63 pcs - 4164 - 120 ns DRAMs - \$.50 each or \$30.00 for all

6 pcs - 41256 - 70 ns DRAMs - \$1.25 each or \$7.00 for all

2764 EPROMs - \$2.50 each

Magnatech 16mm recorder/reproducer - can be modified to 35mm.
comes in large Anvil case on wheels.....\$1500.00

KLOSS Video projector & screen - 6Æ" foot diagonal screen,
rebuilt projection tubes, will sell in Southern CA area
only, since it is too large to ship by UPS!.....\$1150.00

PRO SOUND GEAR:

Nagra 4.2 - excellent condition, this machine is loaded: 7" lid,
ALC, QFM, resolver, etc.....\$3500.00 OBO

4 mini-mics (same as TRAM) with 4-pin LEMO connectors
wired for for Vega XMTRs.....\$75.00 each

2 Vega 66/77 radio mics (good old non-Dynex!).....\$600.00 each

1 Vega 66/77 radio mic (Dynex).....\$650.00

1 ASC digital bloop lite, good condition.....\$150.00

Above prices do not include shipping. If interested, leave
message here or call.

Darryl Linkow
(818) 346-5278 9 am - 5 pm PDT

≥ OLX 2.2 ≥ Darryl Linkow (818)346-5278 9 am - 5 pm PDT

Date: 5 May 94 20:09:17 GMT

From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!wupost!crcnis1.unl.edu!unlinfo.unl.edu!

gbrown@uchvax.berkeley.edu

Subject: International Callsign

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

anthony.j.gaeta (ajg@cbnews1.cb.att.com) wrote:

: I am so excited! I had my first international QSO with station

: LU2LB in Argentina. How do I lookup this callsign so I can send
: him a QSL card?

: Thanks for your help!

: 73,

: Tony Gaeta

: N2NKC

Congratulations! Now that the bug has bitten, you'd better sent for
the International Callbook. I don't believe there is a computer
look-up service for the international calls yet. Ordering info can be
found in any QST Magazine. You could also use the ARRL Outgoing QSL
service. It takes more time to get a card, but the cost right
especially if you make lots of contacts.

Good luck!

Greg Brown WB0RTK

Date: 5 May 94 20:25:16 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!paladin.american.edu!zombie.ncsc.mil!
news.duke.edu!godot.cc.duq.edu!newsfeed.pitt.edu!dsinc!netnews.upenn.edu!
netnews.upenn.edu!yee@ucbvax.berkeley.edu
Subject: Luck Hurder ... gone:(Why?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Luck can say anything he wants. If the League tries to respond, he could
>accuse them of violating his privacy.

Good point. I didn't think of that.

--
Medical Image Processing Group | 73 de Conway Yee, N2JWQ
411 Blockley Hall | EMAIL : yee@mipg.upenn.edu
418 Service Drive | TELEPHONE : 1 (215) 662-6780
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6021 (USA) | FAX : 1 (215) 898-9145

Date: Wed, 4 May 94 21:03:00 -0800
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!netcomsv!
kandy!sandy.dumitru@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Older ham gear (antiques?)

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

From: Sandy Dumitru (sandy.dumitru@kandy.com)

Newgroup: rec.radio.amateur.misc

Subject: Older ham gear (antiques?)

I have an assortment of mostly older ham gear which must be sold. This belonged to my father (W4IXJ, and formerly W2IXJ), who passed away recently. I'm hoping that some knowledgeable hams out there can help me determine appropriate selling prices for these items. I don't know if they'd be considered relics or antiques, but here goes.

- 1) Hammarlund HQ One-Seventy
- 2) Heathkit Apache TX-1 (it weighs a ton!)
- 3) Heathkit Power Amplifier (goes with #2) (it weighs a ton too!)
- 4) Lafayette Slim Crystal Mic PA-42 - still sealed in plastic bag!

Also:

Swan Cygnet 270

Azden PCS-4000 (2 meters)

Any clues as to the value of these items is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,
Sandy Dumitru

≥ SLMR 2.1a ≥ Contentsoftaglinemaysettleduringshipping.

Date: 4 May 1994 23:45:16 -0500

From: illuminati.io.com!nobody@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Was this a bad idea?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The happy news is, as of April 26, my tech no-code license was FINALLY PROCESSED! As of today(Wednesday May 4), it has yet to arrive in the mail. Talk about slow u.s. mail. Anyhow..

7 weeks ago, I was driving in the middle of nowhere with my finacee'. Suddenly, this rather gut-wrenching accident occured about 1/4 mile up the road. With no houses around, and no one else on the road, I pulled out my HT, and fired up a local repeater. I heard someone on it, so I called "Break...Break for police." Thankfully, someone heard me and told me to go ahead.

"This is unlicensed Matthew T. Rupert. I've got a bad accident out here at <such and such>. Need ambulance and emergency response. Will stand by and repeat"

Within 7 minutes, I had three police cars, one ambulance, one firetruck on scene. I tucked away my HT, and went to the 2nd police car(the 1st was busy trying to help the accident victims) and gave my report. One of the victims was losing blood, and had I driven another 2 miles to the first house, it would have taken that much longer.

No questions were asked how I phoned it in. No one on the network that Thursday mentioned it, though the person who took my call was on the net that night.

Since I was unlicensed, was it illegal for me to use my radio on an amateur frequency for this situation?

I'm telling myself "No, since it was a valid emergency". However, I dunno. Would someone help me with this one? I'm still wondering if I was right/wrong. I *do* plan to let the person who answered my call that it was me when...IF my ticket gets here tomorrow, just in time for THursday night network.

--

.....
Matt Rupert | 2984 Pheasant Run Drive Apt D | Jackson, MI 49202 | (517) 782-1438
Security - Organization Meetings/Bookings - Professoinal Harasser
UNIX / Amateur Radio enthusiast[insert soon-to-arrive callsign here]

Date: 5 May 94 20:28:46 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!usc!usc!not-for-mail@ucbvax.berkeley.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <YEE.94May4123149@mipgsun.mipg.upenn.edu>, <2q9abe\$bd@korrd.usc.edu>, <1994May4.233042.11791@lgc.com>
Subject : Re: Amateur Radio and Civil Rights

cww@zycor.lgc.com (Chris Walker) writes:

>Amateur radio is a highly regulated communications medium, unlike internet.
>Radio operators are getting a favor from the federal government that is in
>their personal interest to maintain. The feds frequently treat them well

>too because they need amateur radio operators, even today. The typical
>individual who sticks with the licensing requirements of amateur radio,
>especially the advanced licenses, tends to be quite loyal to the central
>government operating out of Rome, er Washington. It makes a big difference
>when there someone is getting a major favor from the government when it
>comes to judging other activites thereof.

I am familiar with the regulations for both amateur radio and the internet,
and they seem to be quite similar in theory. We internet types don't see
most of the regulations, of course, because the technical end is handled
by our sysops. Amateur radio operators have to do everything for themselves,
and thus have to be familiar with all of the regulations. This may be
the source of much confusion in comparisons between the two.

And what, exactly, is the favor amateur radio is getting from the feds?
Being allowed to operate on a restricted list of frequencies at a restricted
power level, with restrictions on what they can broadcast, all assuming they
have an official license? This is not a favor, any more than allowing
citizens to own a restricted list of weapons, of restricted 'power', with
restrictions on use and carry, again assuming one has an official license,
would be a 'favor' to gun owners. It bothers me that a segment of the
amateur radio community feels otherwise. Fortunately, most of the amateur
operators I know do not feel this way.

--

*John Schilling

* "You can have Peace,

*

*Member:AIAA,NRA,ACLU,SAS,LP

* or you can have Freedom.

*

*University of Southern California

* Don't ever count on having both

*

*Aerospace Engineering Department

* at the same time."

*

*schillin@spock.usc.edu

* - Robert A. Heinlein

*

*(213)-740-5311 or 747-2527

* Finger for PGP public key

*

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #492
